Secular reorientation of Indian history text books

1173. SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of Government for bringing about a secular reorientation to the text books of the Indian history in schools and colleges in the country; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P. V. NARSIMHA RAO): (a) and (b) The Government of India has, since 1981, initiated a Programme of Evaluation of textbooks in history and other subjects from the Standpoint of National Integration. The National Policy on Education 1986 envisages that all educational programmes will be carried out in strict conformity with secular values. The National Curriculum for Primary and Secondary Education—A Framework brought out by NCERT has stressed secularism as one of the primary aims of education. The new series of textbooks that are now being brought out by the NCERT will also stress the aspect of reorienting the study of Indian history with a view to promote secular attitudes and values.

At the University level, textbooks as such are not prepared, but standard works in different subjects are recommended for reading. It is expected that while prescribing text books and reading materials, the objectives of promoting national integration, secularism etc. would be kept in view.

Seeting up of Indian Institute of Technology

1174. SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided not to set-up any more Indian Institutes of Technology in the country; and

(b) if so, what will be the fate of the one proposed to be set up in Assam, as per the provisions of the Assam Accord?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P. V. NARSIMHA RAO): (a) and (b) The Government of India have decided to set up an IIT in Assam as per the Assam Accord.

Marketing of Electrolyte Salt

1175. SHRIMATI RATAN KUMARI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Electrolyte salt is being marketed in the country under different compositions;

(b) whether it is also a fact that World Health Organisation has prescribed a formula;

(c) what are the names of drug companies along with their brands which are not being marketed according to World Health Organisation formula;

(d) whether Government have not approved one formula for this product;

(e) what are the reosons for allowing permissions under different compositions;

(f) what was the total value for which Government purchased this product for National Health Programme during the last three years, yearwise indicating the names of the companies, details of order placed on each, and composition of product of each company;

(g) whether Government tested the samples before purchase; and

(h) if so, what is the number of samples tested along with the report in respect of each?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a), (b), (d) and (e) While WHO's formula for ORS contains Sodium Chloride, Potassium Chloride, Trisodium Citrate dihydrate and glucose, some ORS formulae moving in Indian market contain Sodium bicarbonate instead of Trisodium citrate dihydrate as per the recommendation of WHO's essential drug list so that when former is not available it can be replaced by latter.

The changes in the formulae of ORS could be due to the necessities depending on the severity of diarrhoea and as per the local needs and these formulae have been cleared in consultation with experts.

(c) The popular brands of ORS which are not exactly simmilar to ORS based on WHO's formula are as follows:—

1. Electral	Marketed by M/s. Fair Deal Corporation Bombay.
2. Regolyte	Marketed by M/s. Repatkos Brett & Co Ltd., Bombay.

(f) The Government of India does not purchase and supply Electrolyte Salt to Status|U.Ts. Governments under the Oral Rehydration Therapy Programme. The Government of India instead provides funds to State Governments for the purpose.

(g) and (h) Do not arise.

Death due to substandard and spurious Drugs

1176. SHRIMATI RATAN KUMARI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of cases of death due to administration of spurious and sub-standard drugs which came to the notice of the Government during last five years, wearwise indicating the number of deaths due to administration of each of the drugs, and the hospitals where it occurred and the States where each such hospital is situated;

(b) whether it is a fact that almost in all the cases prosecution efforts of Drugs Control Department have totally failed;

(c) what are the detaks of cases where culprits, have been punished; and

(d) what steps have been taken to protoect people from harmful, spurious and sub-standard drugs in the absence of ineffective drugs control administration?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Vehicles with Senior Divisional Mechanical Engineer, Northern Railway, Allahabad

1177. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) What are the details of vehicles under the charge of the Senior Divisional Mechanical Engineer, Northern Railway, Allahabad, meant strictly for performing official duty;

(b) whether the cocerned officer has been authorised for using official vehicle for his family members and school going children; and

(c) What is the expenditure incurred on fuel during the period from January, 1985 to June, 1987, monthwise, separately and the total expenditure incurred on maintenance of the vehicles in question?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) There are two vehicles under the overall charge